

REMARKS

Summary

Applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-mentioned Office Action in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Status of the Claims

Claims 20-23, 26, and 27 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 28, 29, 31, and 32 have been redrafted in independent form. Claims 28, 29, 31, and 32 are independent.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 28-33 are objected to as dependent from a rejected base claim, but would be allowed if redrafted in independent form. In response, Claims 28, 29, 31, and 32 have been redrafted in independent form and Claims 20-23, 26, and 27 have been canceled without prejudice.

Substantive Rejections

Claims 20-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by Rashkovskiy et al. Claims 26 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rashkovskiy et al. In response, while not conceding the propriety of the

rejections, Claims 20-23 , 26, and 27 have been canceled without prejudice, thereby rendering the rejections moot.

Conclusion

Since the only pending claims are allowed claims that have been redrafted in independent form or claims that are dependent therefrom, the application is now in allowable form. Therefore, early passage to issue is respectfully solicited.

Any fee required in connection with this paper should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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